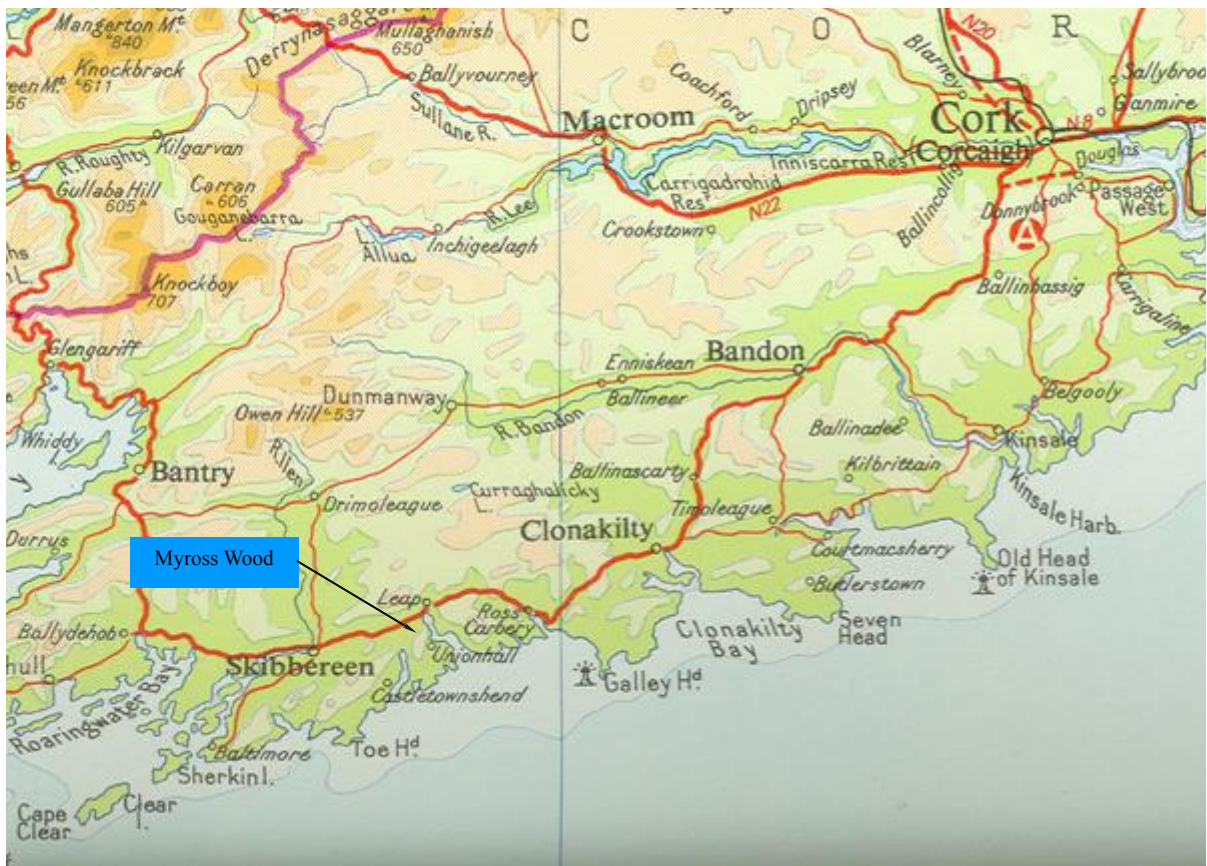


Richard Harvey Townsend [534]

Myross Wood, Leap, Co Cork



**DEATH AND FUNERAL OF MR. R. H.
TOWNSHEND, J.P., MYROSS WOOD.**

We regret to announce the death of Mr. R. H. Townshend, J.P., Myross Wood, which took place last week in England after a brief illness. The deceased belonged to one of the most distinguished families in the district, and was himself a quiet, unobtrusive gentleman, who was ever ready with the soft answer that turneth away wrath. He was only forty five years of age, and up to a few months ago was in the best of health. He then left for the Continent, accompanied by his sister, and was almost completely recovered when he was stricken with a severe attack of peritonitis, which was too much for his already impaired constitution, and from which he never recovered. Mr. Townshend, like his late respected father, was a kind and indignant landlord; he never pressed unduly for his rents, and the tenants on his large estates have been always loud in their praises of the treatment they received at his hands. His death was learned with feelings of regret and sorrow on all sides, because he was popular with all classes of the people, and those who knew him intimately admired him for his many rare gifts and qualities of head and heart.

The remains arrived in Skibbereen by the 11.10 a.m. train on Monday, where a large concourse of people were assembled to pay the deceased their last tribute of respect. After a short delay, the funeral started for the family burial ground, near Myross Wood.

The chief mourners were—Captain W. Tower Townshend, J.P.; Major Townshend, R.E.; Mr. Arthur Townshend Whittle; Mr. E. J. M. Chaplin, and Mr. George Townshend Whittle.

The following sent wreaths:—From his loving mother, brother and sister, at Myross Wood, "An anchor;" a wreath from George and Edith Hutt, "With deepest love and sorrow;" from his loving sister Nellie, a wreath; a wreath, "In loving remembrance," from his brother-in-law and sister, James and Nora Whittle; a cross, "In loving memory," from Ted and Alice Chaplin; from his loving nieces and nephew, Edith, Catherine, Alice, and George Whittle; "With sincerest sympathy," from Mr and Mrs Edward Chaplin, Hamburg; "With sincerest sympathy," from the Chaplin family in London; "With deepest sympathy," from O'Donovan and Madam O'Donovan; "With much sympathy," from Colonel and Mrs Spaight; "With sincere sympathy," from Mrs and the Misses Pardon; "With deepest regret," from Captain and Mrs E. A. H. Townshend; a cross, from Mr, Mrs, and the Misses Smyth, "In affectionate remembrance and sincere regret"; "With deep sympathy," from Mrs Fitz John Hussey de Burgh and all at Ballinacolla; "With much sympathy," from Rev J. B. and Mrs White; a wreath from Mrs James E. Somerville; "With sincere sympathy," from Margaret, Hannah, and John Sheehan; "With very deep regret," from Mr and Mrs Downes.

Extract from Samuel Lewis' Topographical Dictionary 1837

MYROSS, a parish, in the Eastern Division of the barony of WEST CARBERY, county of CORK, and province of MUNSTER, 6 miles (S. W. by W.) from Ross; containing, with the village of Union-Hall, (which see) 3459 inhabitants. Here was formerly the abbey of Maure, or of the Clear Spring, founded in 1172 by Dermot McCormac McCarthy, King of Desmond, for Cistercian monks; the foundations of the buildings, and the burial-ground, may be traced at Carrigiliky. The parish forms an obtuse peninsula between Castlehaven and the harbour of Glandore, having the main ocean to the south; it comprises 3319 statute acres, as apportioned under the tithe act, and valued at £3333 per annum. The surface is very uneven, but the land in general is fertile, producing excellent crops of corn, flax, and potatoes; the more elevated parts, however, afford only scanty pasturage for cattle; there is very little waste or bog: near the centre of the parish are some interesting lakes. Agriculture is much improving, particularly near Brade and Myross Wood, the rector having introduced the most improved implements. The soil is generally shallow, resting upon a substratum of schist, in some places rising into hills of considerable elevation. Considerable efforts are now being made to work the slate more efficiently: many of the inhabitants are engaged in the fishery. A fair for cattle is held on Holy Thursday. Myross Wood (*acquired by John Sealy Townsend [507] sometime between 1837 and 1846*), the demesne of F. H. Copinger, Esq., is very large, extending northward to the Leap, and affording the best woodland in the barony; Clontaff is the residence of R. Townsend (*Richard Mellifont Townsend [236]*), Esq.; Bawnlahan, of Major Powell (*father of Rev Francis Powell who married Caroline Townsend [5B20]*); Brade (Braad), of the Rev. E. P. Thompson (*Braad formerly belonged to Philip Townsend [500] and then his son Richard [501]*); Union Hall, of Capt. Somerville*; Ballincolla, of Capt. Lyster; and Rock Cottage, of J. French, Esq. The living is a rectory and vicarage, in the diocese of Ross, and in the patronage of the Bishop: the tithes amount to £500. The church is a very handsome cruciform edifice, with a tower: it occupies a gentle eminence, near the western termination of Glandore harbour, having been erected on that new site in 1827, at a cost of £900, a gift from the late Board of First Fruits, at which time this living was separated from those of Kilmacabea and Kilfaughnabeg: the present situation was adopted from its contiguity to the village of Union Hall. The parochial schools, which are aided by the incumbent, who also supports a Sunday school, are situated in Union-Hall, as also is a national school for females; and about 170 children are educated in three private schools. On a lofty eminence, above the wood of Myross, are the remains of the church of the union, which was left to fall to decay in 1827: it occupied the site of the abbey De Fonte Vivo, or "the clear spring," being near the sea shore, on the south-western side of the parish. On the haven, opposite to Castle-Townsend, are the ruins of Rahene castle, which in former times protected this ferry; and about a mile to the east are fragments of Castle Ire, on a bold and commanding eminence. At Rock cottage, now the residence of J. French, Esq., Dean Swift wrote his poem of "Carberiae Rupes."

* *This might be the same person as Captain Philip Somerville who is shown in 'An Officer of the Long Parliament' living at The Prairie, Schull. If this is the case there are connections here with Henrietta [242], Anna [408] and Maria [5D07].*